UCAPAWA News

"AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL"

UNITED CANNERY, [illegible] AND ALLIED WORKERS OF AMERICA-CIO

Vol. IV, No. 8 — May 15, 1943 — Price 5 cents

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Lewis Dangerous To Labor, Says UCAPAWA President

Exposing John L. Lewis' efforts "to disrupt the Administration, turn labor against it, strengthen the reactionaries and force a compromise settlement of the war based on defeat of the Administration and an alliance with reactionary appeasement forces in this country," Pres. Henderson explains Lewis' dangerous game in this issue of UCAPAWA NEWS. (See column 1.) Here is the score:

- **This is labor's war and it must be won.**
- **We have many just grievances.**
- **Labor must not strike against its own war.**
- **The Lewis methods will neither win the war nor bring down prices. Lewis' methods merely play into the hands of reactionaries who are fighting the Administration at every step.**

Our job, said Henderson, is to lick the reactionaries, to win lower prices, wage adjustments and fairer taxes. The enlarged CIO Executive Board meeting on May 14 will take up the cudgels, according to the fighting call of Pres. Philip Murray.

John L. Lewis
The Labor Movement and The War

By Donald Henderson, General President

LAST October, at our Fourth National Convention, UCAPAWA adopted a resolution on John L. Lewis. Last November, the Fifth National Convention of the CIO also adopted a resolution on John L. Lewis.

Both UCAPAWA's and the CIO Resolution clearly labeled John L. Lewis and his policies as disruptive of the CIO; as attempting to split the labor movement. They condemned his policies as consciously attempting to wreck the Administration, strengthen the hands of reactionary and appeasement elements opposing the Administration and undermine the successful prosecution of the war.

Resolutions Are Still Correct

These resolutions still state the bitter truth about John L. Lewis in the present mine strike situation. These resolutions are still the policy of the CIO and UCAPAWA toward John L. Lewis and his agents.

This is a People's War against Fascism. We are all convinced it is labor's war and labor [illegible] everything.

Labor is the main bulwark of the Administration in carrying out the war program both at home and abroad. There can be no successful prosecution of the war, and the Administration cannot follow correct policies in winning this People's War, without the unified, wholehearted support of labor.

Any disruption, splitting or disorganization of the labor movement that weakens labor's support of the Administration and labor's battle against the reactionary appeasement forces in Congress can only result in a weakening of the Administration in its efforts to carry out correct policies. Any weakening of the unified labor movement behind the war effort and the Administration policies can only strengthen the reactionary forces in their efforts to sabotage the Adminis-

(Continued on Page 2, Column 1)

Rick Loves Slave System, He Tells Florida Senate

Orlando, Fla.—It's no wonder that Captain Eddie Rickenbacker hates labor unions; his true love is the slave system that flourished in the South before the Civil War.

He said so in a wire to the Florida Senate in support of a bill calling for a constitutional amendment outlawing the closed shop.

Rickenbacker wants the open shop, the 54-hour week and the abolition of unions. Here are his reasons why, in his own words:

"The slaves of the South under honest and fair masters had all the benefits of the four freedoms," Rickenbacker wired the Florida Senate.

"They were free to worship,

(Continued on Page 4—Column 5)

Hear UCAPAWA on the air on Sunday, May 30!

We are broadcasting on a nation-wide hookup, NBC Red Network at 1:15 p.m. Eastern War Time; 12:15 p.m. Central Time; 11:15 a.m. Mountain Time; 10:15 a.m. Pacific Time.

Tune in for a real "V" show!

Val Vita Signs Pact

Fullerton, Calif.—With the winning of an NLRB election in the warehouse and signing of the contract for the can plant, Local 2 is forging ahead in its UCAPAWA program at the former Val Vita cannery here, biggest in the West.

The vote in the warehouse was 31 for UCAPAWA, one for no union and zero for the AFL.

The can contract, with Continental, present owners of the plant, was signed after four meetings with the Management. Vacations, wages, union security will be determined by the War Labor Board covering both the Fullerton and Los Angeles plants. Any increases granted will be retroactive to Feb. 23.

Conditions provided in the contract include equal pay for equal work, night shift bonus of 10c and four hours' pay if called in and work is not available.

Negotiating for Local 2 were Andy Fritts and Helen Crooks, together with Int. Vice-Pres. Luisa Moreno and Int. Rep. "Doc" Johnston.

We had Lewis' Number Long Ago

UCAPAWA SAID:

Be it resolved that the Fourth National Convention of UCAPAWA-CIO

1. Labels John L. Lewis a danger of major importance to the unity of the American People and to the unity of the labor movement;

2. Declares his whole attitude and policies clearly stamp him as an appeaser and defeatist in relation to winning the war;

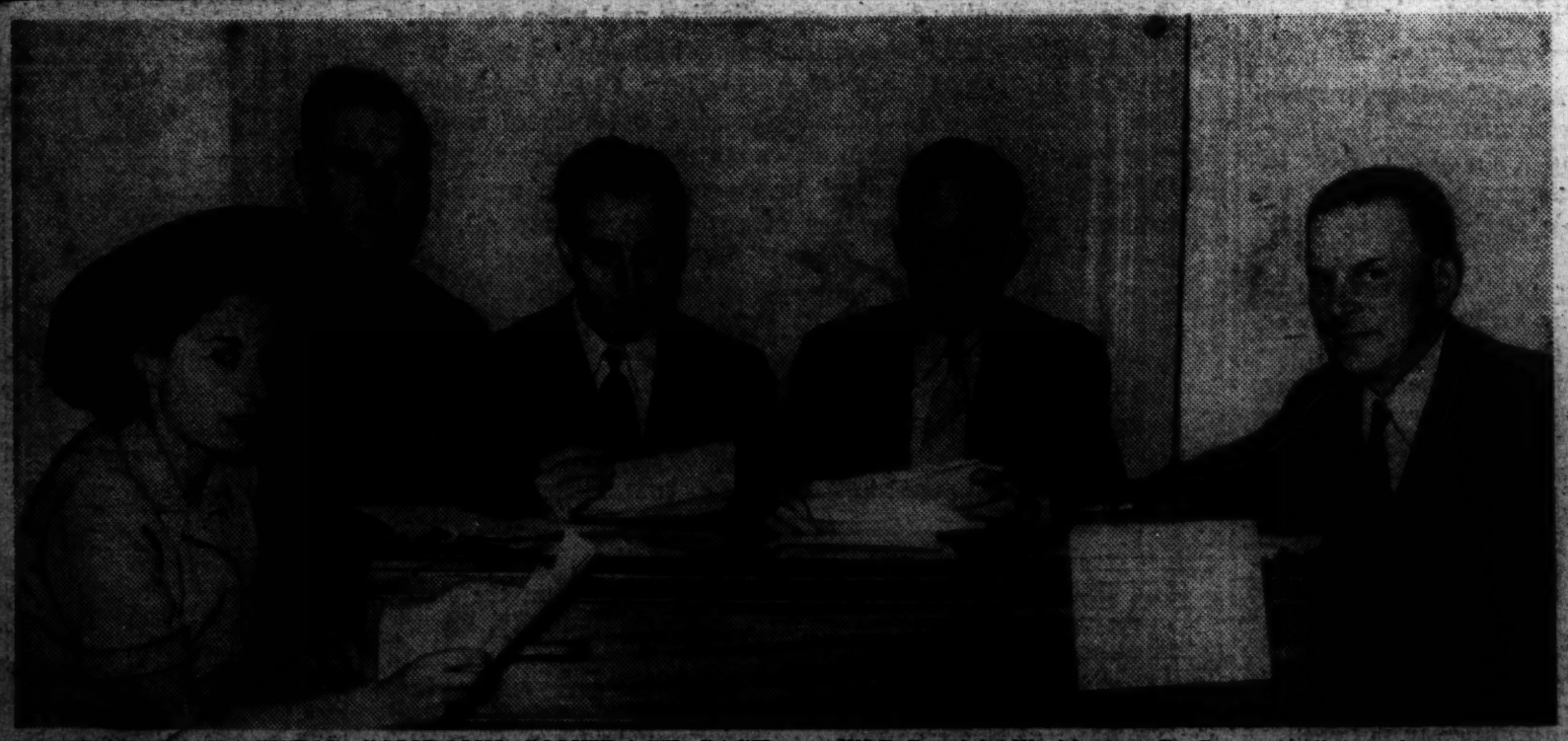
3. Denounces his continued efforts to organize farmers into District 50 as disruptive of unity between farmers and workers and as disruptive of unity between both of these and the Administration;

4. Urges that all Locals, officers and members of UCAPAWA use every means in their power to expose, guard against and defeat the efforts of John L. Lewis and his agents wherever they may be.

THE CIO WARNED:

Part of a resolution passed by the CIO convention, Nov. 1942:

The CIO condemns John L. Lewis, whose studied policies of disruption, raiding and disunity, carried out through the puppet state of District 50, can only serve to undermine the war effort and destroy the trade union movement and strengthen the defeatist and reactionary forces in our country who seek to prevent full national unity behind our Commander-in-Chief, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and an all-out effort to win the war and preserve democracy.



CALIFORNIA PACKING COMPANY CONTRACT CASE of the newly organized Locals 17 and 18 in Rochelle and De Kalb, Ill., will be heard by the War Labor Board at a public hearing shortly as the result of the work of this UCAPAWA delegation before a WLB Panel in Washington, D. C., on April 27. (l. to r.): Elizabeth Sasuly, UCAPAWA Legislative and Research Director; Curtis Dowden, Financial Secretary, Local 18; Jack Fox, UCAPAWA International Representative; Donald Henderson, UCAPAWA President, and George Jagle, President, Local 18.

Facing Our Problems

By Donald Henderson, General President

JOHN L. LEWIS DISRUPTS . . .

(Continued from Page 1, Column 1)

tration policies and put more power and more control over these war policies at home and abroad in the hands of the reactionaries.

This Is John L. Lewis's Game

In the present situation Lewis is attempting to disrupt the CIO; to split it; to encourage wholesale attacks by labor unions on Administration policies; to weaken labor support of the Administration and thereby to undermine the whole war effort.

By exploiting the just grievances of the miners in such a manner as to smash the War Labor Board; in such a manner as to disrupt coal production (and thereby all production); in such a manner as to stimulate disruption in the labor movement and encourage other unions to engage in wholesale mass strikes, John L. Lewis is trying to turn labor against the Administration, thus strengthening the hands of the reactionaries and wrecking the Administration's policy to carry out a correct war program.

This policy of John L. Lewis thus stands revealed as primarily an effort to disrupt the Administration, turn labor against it, strengthen the reactionaries and force a compromise settlement of the war based on defeat of the Administration and an alliance with reactionary appeasement forces in this country.

Labor's No-Strike Pledge Stands

This is a people's war. This is labor's war. Our no-strike pledge is essential to win the war. It is a necessary voluntary contribution toward winning the war as much as volunteering in the Armed Forces. It is not made in order to bargain concessions from the government. It is an essential condition of labor in order for labor to win its own People's War against Fascism.

Labor's Grievances Demand an Answer

Labor has many just grievances. Labor must throw its full weight against the reactionary forces in Congress and in the Administration to get these grievances settled. Prices must be rolled back. The Labor Board must be given power to settle inequalities in wages. A proper tax program must be adopted. A proper agricultural program must be adopted and more complete participation of labor in government must be secured.

Who Is Responsible?

It is the reactionaries, the "farm bloc" and the anti-Administration, anti-Roosevelt forces in Congress and throughout the country who have blocked Roosevelt and the Administration in carrying out the policies demanded by labor. It is precisely the groups and elements with whom John L. Lewis is playing that have created the weaknesses and the present grievances of labor.

It is only through more unified and stronger labor support of the Administration, and only by weakening the reactionary elements and farm bloc elements that the correct labor and war policies can be followed by the Administration.

John L. Lewis, an original "America Firster" and appeaser, is today attempting to increase the difficulties facing labor by his efforts to disrupt the labor movement; to alienate it from the Administration and to put the Administration more at the mercy of the reactionary elements and the farm bloc. This can mean, not only greater difficulties for labor, but most important of all, control by the reactionaries over the war policy and an appeaser's peace. This can only mean labor will lose its own People's War against Fascism.

What Is Our Program?

Lewis's attempts to use the miners' just grievances in such a way as to smash the Administration calls for a clear-cut unwavering stand and a sharp offensive to defeat John L. Lewis and his policies. Everyone of us and the entire CIO must redouble our efforts to carry out our program.

1. We must strengthen our no-strike pledge and bring the understanding of its importance to the war effort to all the workers in and out of UCAPAWA.

2. We must support the Mine Workers in their just demands and urge them to repudiate any and every attempt by Lewis to smash the War Labor Board and disrupt production by strikes. This must be done IMMEDIATELY wherever we can get wires to the Miners and in the public press. Expose Lewis for what he is—a disrupter of the labor movement and an appeaser towards the war!

3. Instead of waiting to see what happens, we must take the offensive against Lewis in order to eliminate and end his influence and leadership in carrying out these disruptive, anti-labor and anti-war policies.

4. We must continue our fight in a more unified manner to defeat the reactionaries in Congress and in the Administration and to support the Roosevelt pro-war forces in seeking adjustment of labor's problems and in seeking the adoption of more correct war policies. This means:

(a) Roll back prices to the September, 1942, level.

(b) To accomplish this, to maintain a stable price level and to stimulate and control food production, we must demand a nation-wide system of price subsidization. The Government must appropriate a fund of approximately 4 billion dollars to provide for government absorption of the price differentials between September, 1942, and May, 1943, through a system of subsidies. Subsidies would be used, however, not only to absorb these price disparities in relation to wages, but would also be used as part of a positive control program to convert farm production to war needs and to integrate our distribution system with the requirements of wartime rationing and price control.

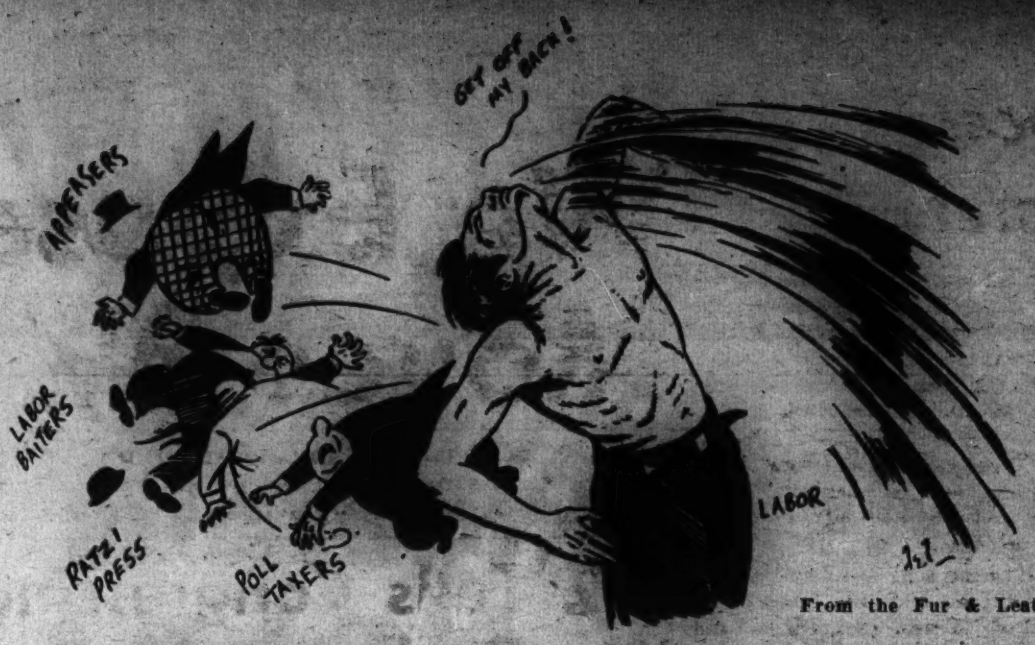
If distributed through the production control mechanisms of the Department of Agriculture, these incentives and subsidies could effectively convert every farm in the country to the production of war products. Whatever distributive subsidies proved necessary could be operated through an over-all system of rationing. Above all, by integration of these two operations it will be possible to meet the basic conditions of economic stabilization.

(c) Full support to the War Labor Board as the proper agency to meet wage adjustments for labor and full support in their fight and our fight to return to them the power to make wage adjustments based on inequalities.

(d) Full support to secure a fair manpower stabilization program.

(e) Stronger opposition to defeat the reactionaries and the farm bloc in their efforts to undermine the Administration's war program on all fronts: Connally, Pace, Bankhead, etc., bills.

(f) Unity in the labor movement everywhere to strengthen the Administration in its fight against reactionaries, to correct inadequate war policies at home and abroad, and to bring into existence a fighting second front to defeat fascism.



From the Fur & Leather Worker

"The mass of mankind has not been born with saddles on their backs, nor a favored few booted and spurred, ready to ride them legitimately, by the grace of God."—THOMAS JEFFERSON, author of the Declaration of Independence.

Forward March! by HAROLD J. LANE, Secretary-Treasurer

Tune In! We're Going on the Air

ON Sunday, May 30, at 1:15 EWT, the Labor for Victory Program will feature the "Food for Victory" Union, UCAPAWA, your Union, on a national hook-up.

Look up this hook-up and listen in. Some of the problems and especially our position on a number of vital factors affecting the winning of the war will be discussed.

The discussion will be led by leading International Officers and you are assured an interesting and enlightening program, especially concerning the "Farm Blockade" bloc that is supposed to be representing the small farmer but is actually representing the gigantic industrial agricultural interests.

Many of our members have not had the opportunity to meet President Henderson and other leaders of the International Union in person but you, your family and friends will be able to hear them on the NBC Red network.

The Labor for Victory broadcast each Sunday has contributed a great deal toward Winning the War by acquainting the public with the excellent job that the men and women of the CIO and AFL are doing to win the fight on the production front.

UCAPAWA's Story

Your union is the food union and as such is playing a vital role in feeding the men who fight the Axis. Every member has a feeling of pride when informed that his or her local has been awarded the Navy E or Army A for their all-out efforts to produce.

Every member is spurred to a greater effort when informed of the brilliant victories in North Africa, and the Eastern Front. We feel that we are there in person when we receive letters from our members on the fronts, as for instance, the letter from former International Vice-President, Leif Dahl.

We do not have much patience with disrupters or hypocritical opportunists that seek to advance their own personal position at the sacrifice of all the labor movement.

Our union, representing thousands of food production workers, tobacco workers and agricultural workers will not be detoured from the road to victory.

Rally your department, shop and local for the broadcast. Hear your national leaders state in a clear concise manner where we stand, and that is four-square behind the progressive policies of Franklin D. Roosevelt and President Philip Murray.

UCAPAWA News

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We Expose Phony Wage Moves By Canners Ass'n

Philadelphia—A campaign to secure more adequate voluntary wage increases for all cannery workers throughout the country has been launched by the International Office in cooperation with various International Representatives and leaders in the States. Following efforts by the National Canners' Association to secure inadequate wage increases on a Voluntary Form 10 basis, which would exclude canneries not belonging to the Association, and which would seriously injure the collective bargaining rights in canneries in which UCAPAWA has contracts, an appeal was addressed to all members of the National War Labor Board by General President Donald Henderson, International Vice-Presidents and heads of cannery locals throughout the country to protect the interests of our members and secure more adequate wage increases.

The National Canners' Association had instructed its State Associations to apply for voluntary wage increases through the Regional War Labor Boards by filing Form 10, which asks for inadequate wage raises. State Associations such as the Michigan State Canners' Association refused to file these Form 10's jointly with UCAPAWA.

What to Do

In a statement addressed to all leaders of the International and our canning and food-processing locals, President Henderson stated "we must endeavor to secure the increases being asked for by the various State Associations but this must be done jointly with UCAPAWA locals in the plants now under contract. We must also fight to have these increases made higher and more adequate and finally, we must make sure that these increases apply not only to canneries who are members of the State Canners' Association, but also to all other canneries in the various States. This is particularly important for those canneries not belonging to the Association where we already have contracts."

Action in Michigan

Robert Clark, International Vice-President in Michigan, states that the Michigan State Canners' Association refused to sign a joint request. He has referred the matter to the Conciliation Service as a disputed labor case which will be carried to the War Labor Board.

In addition, Brother Clark reports that Form 10's are being filed for all canneries in which we have bargaining rights for adequate wage increases wherever cooperation can be secured from the individual company.

President Henderson also appeals to all locals to notify the International Office immediately wherever State Canners' Associations attempt to carry out their policy of independently filing Form 10's which exclude jointly working with UCAPAWA locals.

Local Notes:

32 We are now working on the contract to negotiate with Frazier Packing Co., Elwood, Ind. Last year we received 45c an hour. But living costs have increased so much, we should have more money. The price of meat and butter doesn't correspond with our hourly wage, not to mention other foods, clothing and all the necessities of life.

Our theme-song should be: "Dollar potatoes and 40c wage," instead of "Seven cent cotton and 40c meat."

The ladies of the Local are fixing boxes of fruit and sandwiches to give to the soldiers and sailors on the trains stopping in Elwood. Our name is Canteen 32.

By Pr. Ag. Pauline Murray

47 Our Local of the Libby Blue Island plant is busy arranging our annual Spring Dance, which will be held on Saturday, May 22, at Eagles Hall, Blue Island, Ill.

Proceeds of the dance will be used to build up the Local's treasury. We have assured members of neighboring Locals an entertaining evening on May 22.

At the last business meeting of Local 47, the members voted to purchase 500 packs of cigarettes to send to the U. S. forces in North Africa.

The new union contract between Libby McNeill & Libby and Local 47 is in the negotiation stage.

After the business meeting, members of the Local enjoyed a moving picture of the 1941 strike scenes at the local plant. That strike climaxed in the first contract between the Management and Local 47.

By Pr. Ag. Peggy Andrews

7-2 Tells Congressmen We Can't Eat Profits

Seattle—"The membership of Local 7-2 . . . engaged in the processing of vital foods, is concerned over the failure thus far to convert our food production program to a war footing." Thus began the letter received by Congressman Warren G. Magnuson in Washington, D.C. It was written by James Moellendorf, President of Local 7-2, and Florence Palmer, Secretary-Treasurer.

Farm Bloc Grabs Off $$

"We feel that this failure," the letter continued, "is due to the actions of the so-called 'Farm Bloc' which supported measures to raise prices to the consumer, but has never supported a measure needed by the working farmer. We urge that you use your vote and your influence to accomplish conversion of agriculture before it is too late."

The letter from Local 7-2 further urged the Congressman to:

- Support a program of cutting unessential crops and increasing production of essential foods needed in the war;
- Support incentive payments to farmers;
- Support adequate appropriations for a Farm Labor Mobilization and training program;
- Oppose the Bankhead-Johnson Bill to freeze all farm labor;
- Oppose all bills whose object is to obstruct price control.

"In asking your action on these matters," the letter concluded, "we repeat our pledge of support to the working, producing farmers of the U. S. and to the measures which will aid them to produce food for the war."

This was the response of the Bergoust Wilson and National Fruit Canning workers to UCAPAWA's call for action to win Food for Victory, published in the April 1 NEWS. Copies of the letter were sent to President Roosevelt and to the Senators from the State of Washington.

How About Big Incomes?

Local 7-2 is also campaigning for a people's tax program against the Ruml plan, in favor of higher exemptions, for repeal of the Victory Tax and for a $25,000 limit on incomes.

Congressman Magnuson answered the Local's letter supporting the anti-Poll Tax bill pointing out that he is on their side, going down the line on this issue.

New Local

238 Holland, Mich.—Earl McCormick, Pres.; 317 W. 15 St.; Isabel Fittz, Fin. Secy.; Alice Oudemolen, Rec. Secy.
Company: H. J. Heinz.

Campbell Soup

WLB Hears Both Cases

Washington, D. C.—Local and International leaders, representing Campbell's Soup workers in Chicago, and Camden, N. J., completed a two-day hearing before a panel of the War Labor Board here last week. The case involved both plants in Camden, Local 80, and Chicago, Local 194, as well as the Camden watchmen, and was presented as a joint case representing as high as 10,000 workers.

Contracts covering the 1943-44 season have already been signed, with the exception of the issues now before the War Labor Board.

Seek Union Security

The major issues presented for both plants and locals were: 1. Union security; 2. General wage increase; 3. Right to wear union insignia on the job; 4. Retroactivity of wages; 5. Special adjustment of wage rates for mechanics and refrigerator men in the Camden plant.

Local 194 Pres. John Gallagher and Int. Rep. Jack Fox presented the evidence for the Chicago plant and Local 80 Pres. Anthony Valentino presented the evidence for the Camden plant. Int. Pres. Donald Henderson and Int. Exec. Vice-Pres. Conrad Espe helped the two locals in the presentation of the case and the preparation of briefs.

Expect Quick Decision

Due to the size of the company and the importance of this company in the food processing industry, a quick decision is expected. Final briefs will be presented before May 20.

Important Meetings

May 13. UCAPAWA Indiana State Conference in Indianapolis.

May 14. The CIO Executive Board meets in Cleveland. Pres. Henderson, Exec. Vice-Pres. Conrad Espe, and Int. Vice-Presidents Evelyn Marks and Robert Clark are representing UCAPAWA at this enlarged meeting.

May 15. UCAPAWA Ohio State Conference in Lima, Ohio.

May 16. UCAPAWA Iowa-Western Missouri- and Nebraska Conference in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

May 23-25. UCAPAWA Executive Board meets in Philadelphia.

UCAPAWA and UAW Score CIO Song Hit

The happy song reprinted below was written by two proud union men of Traverse City, Michigan: Edward Van Leishout of UCAPAWA, and Harold Beattie of the United Auto Workers. Printed in sheet music, it is a peppy dance number.

Van Leishout, popularly called, "Popeye," because he does jobs of lifting heavy objects that two or three ordinary fellows find difficult to handle, has worked at Cherry Growers for nine years and is recording secretary of Local 178. He has worked at everything under the sun at Cherry Growers; during the pack, he is a gang leader. His great ambition is to write the hit song of World War II.

EDWARD VAN LEISHOUT

Harold Beattie, who wrote the music to "Happy in the CIO," is working at the Willow Run bomber plant in Ypsilanti and is an upholsterer by trade. But he has a yen for song writing and music and plays with a dance orchestra as a side line.

This song, which the authors hoped "would give every CIO member a chance to express just what place his Union held in his heart," has already made a big hit wherever it has been played. The brothers and sisters of Local 178 voted to finance its publication.

Address your order for the sheet music of "Happy in the CIO" to Local 178, UCAPAWA-CIO, Box 84, Traverse City, Mich. Price: single copy, 35c; 10 or more copies, 25c; 100 or more copies, 20c per copy. Write Local 178 on how to get exclusive rights to sell the song in your town.

HAPPY IN THE CIO

Words and music by Edward McKinley Van Leishout, UCAPAWA Local 178, and Harold Beattie, UWA Local 50.

Everyone is happy in our town.
The clouds so grey have rolled away,
Once again the sun is shining down,
No fear have we of chesty company.

Chorus

We all merrily are singing as we gaily go to work.
Every face can wear a smile.
You can bet your bottom dollar we will never never shirk,
For we've found something worth while.
We sing "Security lies in Unity and in the CIO we are glad to be."
How about it, sing and shout it, there's no doubting,
For we know we're all "Happy in the CIO."

Labor Says "No" To Food Wage Scheme

Protests against plans to throw wages of both food processing and agricultural workers into the hands of county agricultural boards have been pouring into Chester Davis, War Food Administrator and James E. Byrnes, Director of Board Economic Stabilization ever since UCAPAWA made public what the Dept. of Agriculture has in mind.

Upwards of 1,000,000 food processing workers would be affected. UCAPAWA has asked that wages of these industrial workers NOT be so handled and that the bargaining rights of agricultural workers be protected should such a scheme go through. (See UCAPAWA NEWS, May 1.)

Back UCAPAWA

Among the scores of trade union leaders who have sent in their protests are Allan S. Haywood, Vice-President and Director of Organization of the CIO; Joseph Curran, President, National Maritime Union; John Green, President, Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers; Sam Sponseller, Chairman, Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee; Abraham Flaxer, President, State, County and Municipal Workers Union.

Also protesting: Richard Lewis, Acting Secretary-Treasurer, United Office and Professional Workers of America; James P. Griffin, President, Mahoning County CIO Council (Youngstown, Ohio); Jeff Kibre, War Food Director, California CIO Council; and the Allen County Industrial Council (Lima, Ohio).

Among the UCAPAWA protests were those of Locals 3, 28, 47, 110 and 113; and telegrams from Robert Clark, Int. Vice-Pres.; and Frank Hargrove, James De Witt and Harry Koger, International Representatives.

Congress Socks Labor

Washington (FP) — Taking full advantage of anti-John L. Lewis sentiment, the Senate passed the Connally anti-strike bill and reactionaries in both houses launched an allout attack on morale and national unity with a whole series of repressive labor bills.

Smashing organized labor as a whole became the chief aim of a congress already celebrated for fighting the Administration instead of the Axis.

Senate May Soak the Poor

Despite the House's rejection of the Ruml-Carlson plan the Senate Finance Committee adopted a version of it May 10 by a vote of 13 to 8.

The Ruml plan has met consistent labor opposition because it would favor the wealthy and probably result in a stringent sales tax being passed to make up additional revenue.

(Under Ruml-Carlson those with $1,000,000 incomes, for example, would be forgiven $854,000 for 1942 taxes; under Forand-Robertson, passed by the House, $189,688; under Doughton, the Administration bill backed by the CIO, they would be forgiven $121,126 in taxes.)

NAZI BOGEYS

"Germany will fight so long as it is necessary to bar definitely the Bolshevik danger from the east and the danger of Americanization from the west," said German Foreign Minister von Ribbentrop on April 29, according to the United Press.

A-D-M Profits Up

Members of Local 179 in Toledo, under contract with the Archer - Daniel - Midlands soy bean plant there, will be interested in jotting down a few figures on Company profits which show increases over 1942, as reported by the New York Times.

	Profits	Federal taxes
9 Mos. to Mar. 31, 1943	$2,762,797	$7,160,000
9 Mos. to Mar. 31, 1942	$2,606,801	$4,260,000

"Federal taxes" for the 1943 period are sums set aside for estimated taxes. The 1942 tax figure is that actually paid.

American Women

Women Fight for Shorter Hours and Better Pay: "Women as Well as Men have Certain Inalienable Rights to Organize for the Common Good!"

PART 5

IT IS practically an accepted theory today that women workers should receive the same pay as men working on the same job. But it took many years of hard struggle on the part of organized labor before women were granted "equal rights" on the job.

Back in 1830, a woman worker was likely to find little more than $1.75 in her weekly pay envelope. But she was not working for "pin money", despite anything the politicians and bosses said. It was then that women formed their own trade unions, and with the help of men trade unionists, fought for higher pay and better conditions.

In Part 5, we see the first struggles of women factory workers in America. The story is told by Dr. Philip Foner, *outstanding historian. (These talks, reported by* Katherine Beecher, *are loaned by the* UE News.)

IT was in the 1830's that women for the first time came on the scene as trade unionists. Women at that time worked either as semstresses and tailoresses and shoebinders or as factory workers in the New England and Pennsylvania textile mills.

Women Workers Organize

They were not allowed to join the men's unions but when they organized unions of their own the men were active in cooperating with them to win their demands.

Fannie Wright was the first woman of importance in the trade union movement. As a writer she campaigned through the press for the organization of women workers to improve their conditions.

Describing the growth of unions, Fannie Wright said:

"It is now everywhere the oppressed millions who are making common cause against oppression; it is the ridden people of the earth who are struggling to throw from their backs the 'booted and spurred' riders whose legitimate title to starve as well as work them to death will no longer pass current."

It is no wonder that women were taking an active part in this struggle when we consider the conditions under which they had to work.

The seamstresses did piecework at home for which they averaged wages of from 12-20 cents a day.

$1.75 for 84 Hours

In New England at this time about 95 per cent of the textile factory workers were women and children, some of whom started to work when they were four years old. Children worked 14 hours a day for six days a week and made 75c a week. For the same number of hours the women received $1.75

Then, as now, many of the same arguments were used by the apologists for these conditions. It kept the children "out of mischief," and as for the women, since they only worked for extra "pocket money" they didn't need higher wages.

In 1833 the women shoebinders of Lynn, Mass., organized and drew up a constitution which stated that "women as well as men had certain inalienable rights to organize for the common good." The purpose of the organization, said the constitution, was to form a society to win shorter hours and higher pay, to aid members in need and to establish a wage scale. Dues were set at 12½c every three months.

The men in the shoemakers union cooperated with the women shoebinders and in 1834 they agreed to refuse to work for any boss who did not abide by the scale set by the women.

The first strike of women occurred in 1828 in Dover, N. H., when the textile workers went out on a spontaneous strike. It was such a novelty that newspapers sent reporters from as far away as Philadelphia to report the strike.

The most famous strike in this period was the one of the girl textile workers in Lowell, Mass. Here 2,000 women went out on strike against a 15 per cent wage cut.

They so forgot their place as women, said one newspaper account, that some of them actually got up on stumps to speak to the strikers, and as they paraded they sang this song:

"Oh isn't it a pity that such a pretty girl as I
Should be sent into the factory to pine away and die?
Oh I cannot be a slave
For I'm so fond of liberty
That I cannot be a slave."

Soon after this, at the 1834 meeting of the National Trade Union in New York a special committee was set up to study the problems of women workers. The committee recommended that either the men organize women workers as auxiliaries to their unions or that they take them into their unions directly.

So gradually the men and women workers came to see the need for joint action to solve their common problems.

Rick OK's Slavery; Nation Tells Truth

(Continued from Page 1)

free to speak their minds, free from want and free from fear, but they didn't have freedom of opportunity until their emancipation.

"Certainly the writers of our constitution or so-called bill of rights felt that the freedom of opportunity was included but in recent years this freedom of opportunity has been abridged through selfish, malicious interests on the part of some of our courts through the enactment of laws such as the Wagner labor relations act and other instruments.

"In the name of fairness and decency and the welfare of our soldiers when they return—those who do return—I hope the legislative body of the great state of Florida and its citizens will see fit to rededicate themselves to the efforts of our forefathers and the composers of our bill of rights."

Rick Has the Dough

Perhaps Rickenbacker, who raked in a cool $140,000 last year from his stocks in the Eastern Air Lines, can afford to hate the closed shop and the Wagner Act. But American Labor, which doesn't like slavery, the open shop, Rickenbacker or Hitler, isn't taking this new open shop attack lying down.

A united labor delegation, representing CIO, AFL and Railroad Brotherhoods of Florida, called upon the Senate committees on April 20, to protest the anti-union bill.

No Time to Stab Labor

Otis Nation, UCAPAWA Vice-President, was spokesman for the CIO delegation. He pointed out that Rickenbacker had been quoted by the Ku Klux Klan in its latest leaflet attacking labor. He said that "while thousands of men under the closed shop are sailing the seas delivering war supplies, and millions of our people—both CIO and AFL—are working in war industries, we think this is a most inopportune time to begin stabbing labor in the back.

"Let us all go back to our homes," Nation concluded, "And work for increased production and the war effort, instead of for chaos, disunity and confusion."

Make the Deadline!

Deadline for June 1 issue is May 21. However, since the meeting of our Executive Board throws out the schedule a bit, stories may get in as late as May 26 if word has been received by May 21 that they are coming.

"I Like Being A Shop Steward!" Say Consolidated Girls

Our Inquiring Photographer asked these bright Shop Stewards, at Consolidated Cigar in Camden, N. J. (Local 80) whether they enjoyed being active Union women. Here are the answers:

ANNA MAGEE: "I joined the Union in '41 and helped to organize Consolidated. Sure, I enjoy Union activity, because I learned a lot in the Union. I've been working at Consolidated for almost 16 years now, and I can remember when I got my first pay of $12 as a learner. The Union won us a 15c increase in piece rates. My biggest job now is to educate the older women to be active in the Union."

JENNIE DE MATTEO: "Girls can make even better Shop Stewards than men, because they have more nerve than men. I think they can talk to foremen better. You should see some of our girl Shop Stewards. Antoinette knows how to talk to any foreman; she's gotten lots of grievances settled. How long have I been in the Union? A year, and I like being active in the Local, too."

ANTOINETTE SHARP: "You learn a lot as a Shop Steward. I keep on talking to the women about joining the Union. The girls asked me the other day if I would care to be a forelady. I said no—I would much rather be a Shop Steward for the Union. I'd rather fight for the workers than fight for the company. I helped to organize the Union here."

TILLIE SAMOSUKC: "Of course women make good Shop Stewards. I've been in the Local since we first organized Consolidated. My husband, Alexander, is a member of Local 80, too; he works at Campbell Soup. We both enjoy being active in the Union. I've settled several grievances in the shop. Just recently I helped to get more pay for some men who work on my floor."

CORA GREEN: Being a Shop Steward is interesting and teaches you a lot. The Union has settled many grievances for the Negro people in the shop. It helped us to get better pay. That's probably the reason why the company is pretty good to the colored workers. I've been a member of the Union for a year now. I try to convince others on my floor to join, and I win most of them over."

The HONOR ROLL

Here they are—some of the members of UCAPAWA who answered the call to the colors and are now serving in the Armed Forces. This is only a partial list, *adding to those names already published.* Locals should keep us posted *on the men and women who are leaving for the service. Remember to include the service address so we may send them UCAPAWA NEWS. Also send photos whenever you can get ahold of them.*

Local 7-2

Neil Campbell
Robert Daniels
Jerry Donald
Victor Lusko
Joe Mack
James Parisi
Mickey Rukavina
J. M. Stalpes
Harry Stareno
Wilbur Willis

Local 63

Jimmie Davis

Local 68

Ralph Presido

Local 69

Louis Brian
Harry Hines
Katherine Sousz
Cloyd Weller

Local 72

Flaris D. Fisher
Lester Foor

Local 79

Herman F. Casper
Walter A. Casper
Harry F. Middleton

Local 110

Raymond Blake
Thomas Bjornsen
Orin Carter, Jr.
William C. Dahlem
Glen D. Fee
John Flidr
Wilbur Foster
Louis D. Jedlicka
George P. Malone
J. W. Ritchie
John T. Roy
Mary Setter

Local 120

William Arndt
Joseph Babak
Floyd Baker
Arthur Barron
Troy Boatman
Howard Brannon
Joseph Cash
Jasper Clemente
Ed Condley
Paul Cooper
James Csikos
Robert Darden
Robert Darst
Francis Devaney
Samuel Fecuch
Henry Grochowski
William Haber
Robert Jordan
Ralph Kunsman
Frank La Rocca
Arthur Lewis
William Makinson
James McKnight
Chowing Melton
Cloise Melton
Elwood Moore
Thomas Moreland
Olen Myers
Roy Ohloeft
William Oliver
Harry Pitz
Clarence Plaster
John Procaccio
John Ransdell
Donald Seabeck
Orden Shaffer
William Simpson
John Sinopoli
Robert Smith
Joseph Spak
Joseph Stephens
Robert Stone
Ralph Swartz
Raymond Tanner
James Thomas
Buster Williams
Paul Yeager
Jack York

Local 178

Everett Cozart

Local 179

William Christian
C. C. Taylor

Local 272

B. Alvarez
Y. Calvillo

Local 281

Norman Basak
Edmund Buczak

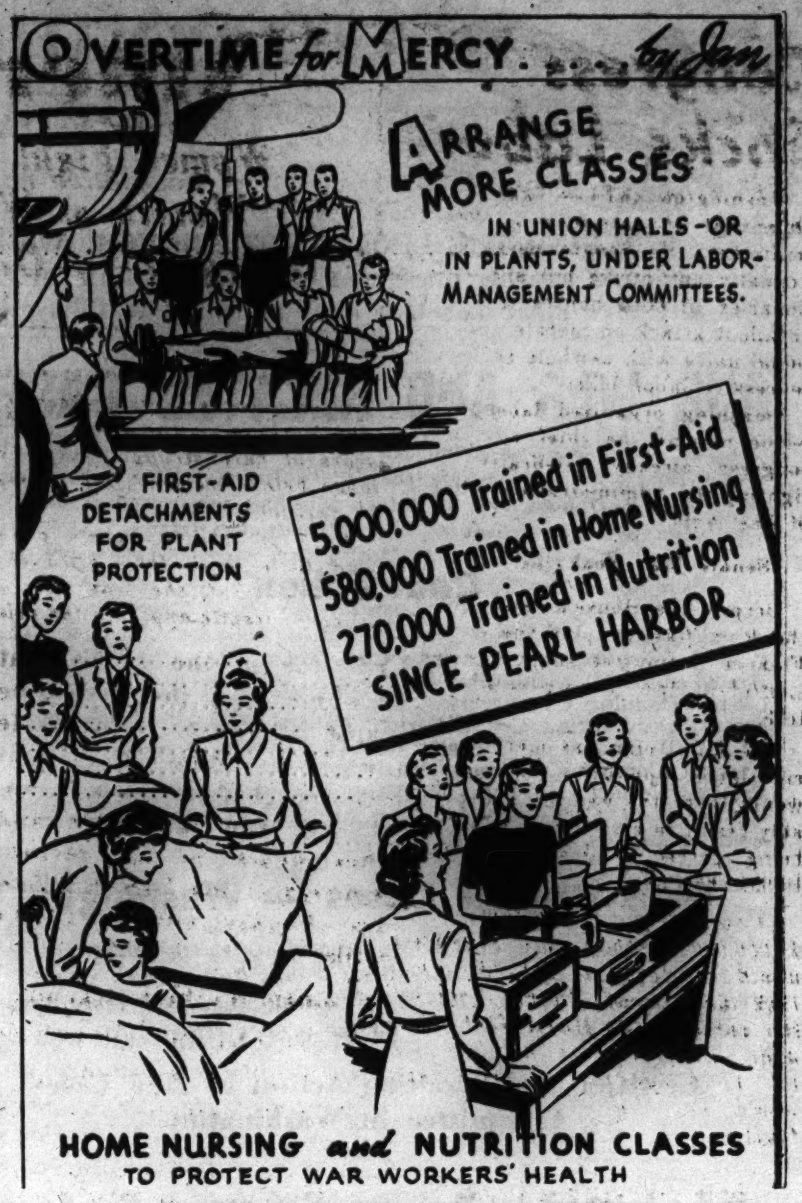
Local 638

Elma Halbach

Throw Hats in Air

Members of Local 20 at Huron Milling in Harbor Beach, Mich. are planning a Victory dance to celebrate their first CIO contract.

They are CIO pioneers in Huron County, the first to win a CIO contract. Huron County, on a peninsula which juts into Lake Huron, on the East side of Saginaw Bay, has a population of 32,584. Harbor Beach is a town of 2,186 people.


OVERTIME for MERCY . . . . by Jan
ARRANGE MORE CLASSES
IN UNION HALLS - OR IN PLANTS, UNDER LABOR-MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES.
FIRST-AID DETACHMENTS FOR PLANT PROTECTION
5,000,000 Trained in First-Aid
580,000 Trained in Home Nursing
270,000 Trained in Nutrition
SINCE PEARL HARBOR
HOME NURSING and NUTRITION CLASSES
TO PROTECT WAR WORKERS' HEALTH

GRAIN PROCESSING DIVISION

Local 20 Bags First CIO Pact Ever Won In Huron County, Mich.

By Margaret Wood, Press Agent

Harbor Beach, Mich.—After a three month's battle for a contract, negotiations with the Huron Milling Co. here ended April 27 in a great victory for Local 20. The Shop Committee, together with Int. Vice-Pres. Robert Clark have had to battle every step of the way to secure a good contract, due to the arbitrary attitude of the management.

In the last three meetings with the management, U. S. Conciliators Moran and Hunt sat in and were of great assistance.

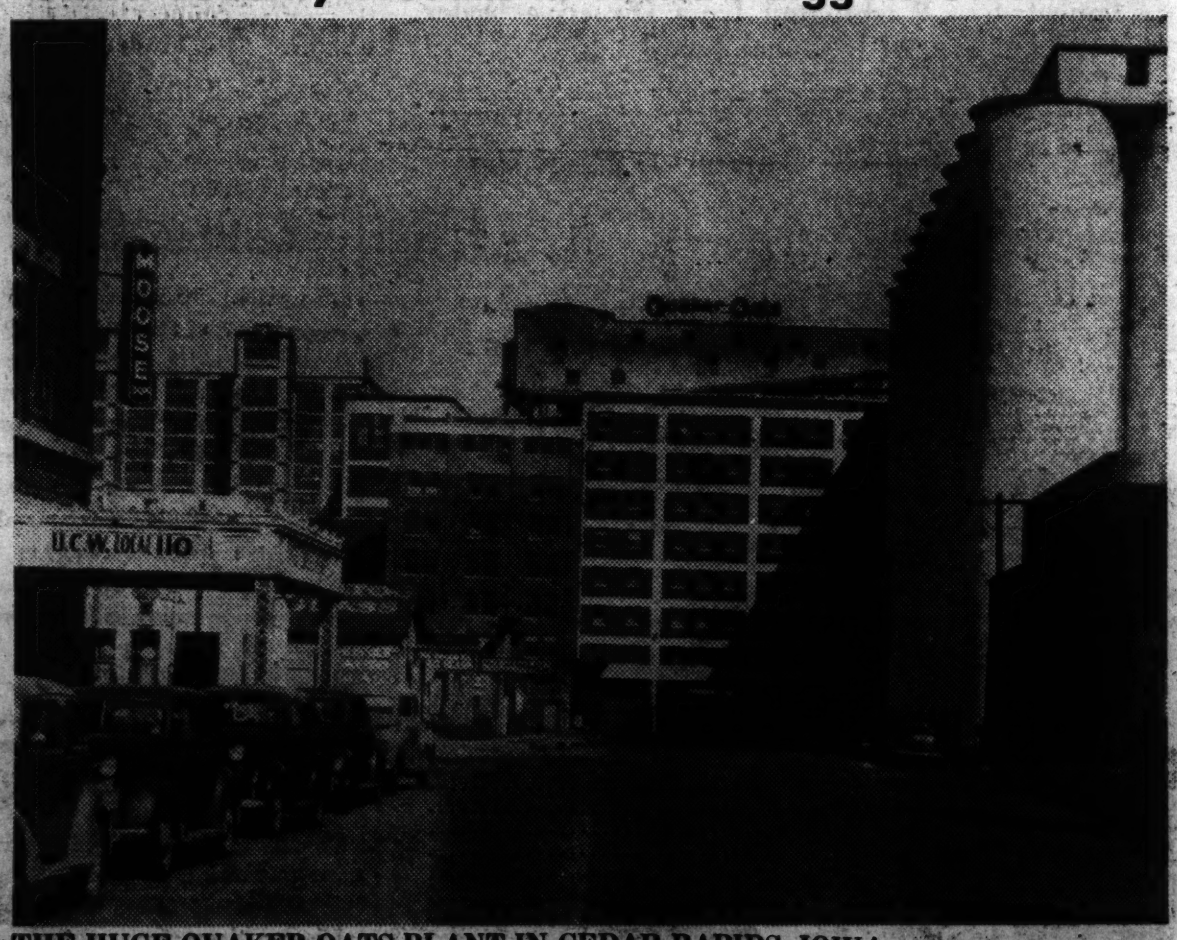
The chief achievements in this, the first CIO contract in Huron County are union security, plant-wide seniority, top seniority for committeemen, a good grievance procedure, premium pay for holidays and paid vacations.

New Benefits

Many of these and other minor gains have never before been enjoyed by the employees. Local 20 expects to sign the contract before May 1. Some 380 work at the plant.

Members of the Local 20 Shop Committee are **Donald Hunter**, Chairman, **George Hickens, Roy Wisenbaugh, Ted Stephenson, Casey Konjocas, Harvey Foe** and **Ray Blaskill**, Alternate.

Union Security Prevails In World's Biggest Cereal Mill



THE HUGE QUAKER OATS PLANT IN CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, whose beautiful grain elevators tower over the entire city was the scene of a two years' struggle for union security, finally won by Local 110 when the WLB granted them Maintenance of Membership. With some 900 production workers eligible for union membership, the local is fast approaching the 100% mark, following an enthusiastic membership drive launched when the WLB decision came through. Other terms of the second contract include: HOURS—40-hour week, with time and one-half after 8 hours in one day and 40 hours in a week, and a guarantee of 140 hours work a month; in case of layoff, 70 hours to be paid from one month up to 6 months with 5 years' service. VACATIONS—2 years' service, one week; 5 years', 2 weeks; and 20 years', 3-week vacation. MILITARY CLAUSE—members leaving for the armed services, including girls who volunteer, receive 3 weeks' pay. EQUAL PAY for equal work for girls. NOTE: Local 110 has sent 10,000 smokes to the boys fighting in North Africa.

LETTERS FROM OUR BROTHERS IN UNIFORM

If Local 80's mailbag is heavy these days, it is due mainly to the heroic efforts of the Welfare Committee, headed by Sister Ethel Jackson, which keeps up the heavy correspondence with the Local's boys in the service. Here are some of the interesting letters received from the boys recently:

Camp Polk, La.

Brothers,

I was a happy soldier today, because I received the UCAPAWA News. My wish is that you continue to send it to me. I read this one from cover to cover and enjoyed every article in it.

CORPORAL A. R. DENTINO
Can Dept. Worker

Here in my company we are 100% bond buyers and are proud of the fact. I hope Campbell Soup Co. will soon boast of the same.

Yours truly,
Cpl. Anthony Dentino

* * *

North Africa

Dear Members,

Just a few lines to say hello and let you know that the boys over here are doing a swell job.

I also want to thank you for the swell package I received from you today. It was about everything a fellow needs. It sure would be swell if I could get the union News once in a while, as it would help me to keep up with what is going on in my absence.

Thank you again, and I hope to hear from you soon.

Fraternally,
W. J. Ridge, Jr.

* * *

Pacific Islands

Gentlemen:

Received your package several days ago, but this moment has presented the first opportunity to write you and thank you for your generous thought. I can assure you that everything was put to good use.

We left the States immediately after Pearl Harbor and I have been stationed on several islands in the Pacific ever since. Time sure does fly.

I would like hearing from you and keeping tabs on the current events back there, so that I won't feel entirely like a newcomer upon my return.

I have enjoyed these islands and expect to keep seeing more. I did want to visit this place once upon a time, so Uncle Sam has given me an additional gift. I sincerely hope that your next letter will be addressed: Tokyo, Japan.

So for now I'll bid you Aloha, with my best wishes to all.

Most sincerely,
George Hicks

GUIDE TO POLITICAL ACTION

By ELIZABETH SASULY

Legislative and Research Director

"HOLDING THE LINE IS NOT ENOUGH. WE MUST TAKE THE OFFENSIVE" has become a number one guide to political action for the labor movement. In planning this offensive labor has two lines of attack to follow for a successful pincer movement against the enemy on the home front. Both attacks are equally important. Together they will lead to the home front victory which is necessary for our victory on the fighting front.

Number one is the price-wage program. When you receive this issue of the NEWS, the big decisions will still be in the making. Look at the record.

So far there has been talk of restoring War Labor Board's authority to make adjustments of wage inequities and inequalities but the Byrnes office has not yet done so. It is moving in that direction as a result of pressure and mass delegations but we are still in the thick of the fight and the outcome is uncertain.

So far OPA has promised to roll back the cost of living and admitted its past and present failures to control prices. But the proof of the pudding is still to come.

ACTION: Labor's job is cut out: It is to make the ground swell of grass roots labor pressure so great that there can be only one decision on prices and wages. Letters from every local and every union member to the President and to James Byrnes are the first step. These should demand that two simple things be done at once:

1. Roll back prices to May, 1942. **That's where wages are now.**
2. Give the War Labor Board authority to adjust wage inequalities

Taking the second step calls for more action than letters. **Send a delegation to your local OPA office.** Remember that every delegation in any part of the United States produces an effect in Washington far greater than you can measure.

Number two is an offensive to meet the attack of the appeasers who have taken up John L. Lewis' open invitation for disruption of the war effort. The Lewis strike has made the battle of the miners to win their demands just so much tougher. It has opened the way for a new all-out attack on the labor movement.

The Connally Bill (S 796) rode through the Senate on the wave of the mine strike. It subjects unions to criminal penalties for even the threat of a strike and subjects the collective bargaining of every union to disruption by making War Labor Board decisions subject to all the litigation an employer can pay for.

The Connally Bill is now before the House Military Affairs Committee and other House committees are taking hope and reviving every scrap of anti-labor legislation they can lay hands on.

ACTION: Write your Congressman; demand that he oppose anti-labor bills which will wreck our war effort.

When you write your Congressman telling him what to OPPOSE, tell him what to SUPPORT. Tell him to be on the floor of the House without fail on May 24 to vote for the anti-Poll Tax Bill and to vote down any and all amendments.

Calling All Locals

Reports of your work on the Political Front are due in the National Office by May 18. Forms for this purpose have been sent to each Local by Pres. Henderson.

OUR WLB AND RELATED CASES

The table below summarizes the current Conciliation and War Labor Board cases of which the International Office has a record, as of May 8. If your case is not on this list, the reason is that your Local has not reported it to the International Office.

Conciliation

Name	Local
Cherry Growers, Inc., Traverse City, Mich.	178
Four Peanut Co.'s, Suffolk, Va.	26
Gerber Canning Co., Fremont, Mich.	30
Hunt Bros. Packing Co., Fullerton, Calif.	2
Judd Hill Plantation, Trumann, Ark.	85
Kennett Compress, Kennett, Mo.	355
Pretlow Peanut Co., Franklin, Va.	26
Quaker Oats, Cedar Rapids, Iowa	110
Sterling Brands, Sterling, Ill.	310

WLB Dispute Cases — Washington

(Includes cases initiated before decentralization, those which were certified after decentralization but for special reasons are being handled by the Board in Washington, and cases recently certified but not yet referred to the proper region.)

Certified and Awaiting Action by New Cases Committee in Washington

(None)

Assigned to Mediator, Referee or Panel and Awaiting Hearing

(None)

Awaiting Report by Mediator, Referee or Panel

Name	Local	Date Certified
California Packing Corp., DeKalb & Rochelle, Ill.	17 & 18	Feb. 19, 1943
Campbell Soup, Camden, N. J., & Chicago, Ill. (including Camden Watchmen)	80 & 194	Mar. 24, 1943

Awaiting Union or Company Comments on Report

Name	Local	Date Certified
McLean Arkansas Lumber Co., No. Little Rock, Ark.	98	Nov. 27, 1942

In Review Section of Research Div., Washington, with Parties Comments, Being Prepared for Board Action

Name	Local	Date Certified
Larus & Bros., Richmond, Va.	577	Dec. 22, 1942

Awaiting Board's Directive Order in Washington

(None)

Directive Order of Board Issued Since April 23, 1943

(None)

Appealed to Washington from Directive Order of Regional Board

Name	Local
Growers Shippers, Salinas, Calif., & Phoenix, Ariz.	78

WLB Dispute Cases — Regions

Name	Local	Date Certified
Acmeline Mfg. Co., Traverse City, Mich.	178	Jan. 23, 1943
Alaska Salmon Industry, Seattle, Wash.	5 & 7	Mar. 6, 1943
Armour & Co., Bloomer, Wis.	24	Mar. 17, 1943
Buckeye Cotton Oil Co., Little Rock, Ark.	98	Jan. 27, 1943
Chester C. Fosgate Co., Forrest City, Fla.	4	Mar. 25, 1943
Koppers & Co., N. Little Rock, Ark.	98	Feb. 10, 1943
Memphis Cotton Oil, Jackson Cotton Oil, Memphis, Tenn.	19	Apr. 5, 1943
Swift & Co., Harvey, La.	309	Jan. 15, 1943
Western Compress Co., Fresno, Calif.	254	Oct. 25, 1942

WLB Voluntary Wage Cases

Pending in Washington

Name	Local
Kind & Knox, Camden, N. J.	80

Acted on in Washington

(None)

Pending in Regional Wage & Hour WLB Offices

Name	Local
Consolidated Cigar, Lancaster, Pa.	638
Chase & Sanborn, Chicago, Ill.	194
J. W. Eshelman & Son, York, Pa.	101
Export Leaf, Richmond, Va.	350
Federal Compress, Helena, Ark.	232
Federal Compress, Riverside Plant, Memphis, Tenn.	19
Fuhrer Ford Co., Mt. Vernon, Ind.	62
Huron Milling Co., Harbor Beach, Mich.	20
Kuner Empson, Longmont, Colo.	313
Malone & Hyde, Memphis, Tenn.	19
Page Milk, Shelbyville, Ind.	29
Poinsett Lumber, Trumann, Ark.	85
Tri-State Compress, Memphis, Tenn.	19
Webster Cigar, Detroit, Mich.	281

Acted on in Region

Name	Local
Ellsworth Ice Cream Co., Huntington, Ind.	124

Appealed from Region to Washington

(None)

Building the Local

UCAPAWA Mike Peps Up the Meeting

UCAPAWA Mike is a good union man. At least he's always been a faithful member of Local 999 since his shop organized three years back. But if he wasn't really active in his Local for a long time—well, maybe there was a reason for it, so let's look into his story.

Actually, Mike wasn't the only member of the Local who was not active—most of them weren't. But Mike is a thinking man. And he began to be worried about the situation when the old contract was expiring and it became necessary to get all the members on their toes to put up a strong fight for a good renewal.

Where Are the Members?

So Mike sat down to give the matter some thought. And the more he thought, the more he felt that there was a big problem to overcome: something was wrong with the way the membership meetings were conducted. Otherwise, why would new members come down to one meeting, or two, and then suddenly develop bad colds on the third meeting night and never show up again? Yes, there was something wrong with the meetings. So Mike pocketed his copy of UCAPAWA's Constitution before he set forth for the next meeting of Local 999.

The meeting was about the same size as usual. About half the people there were shop stewards or officers; there were a few members; and the rest were members who had special grievances in the shop and wanted to see how the union was going to handle them.

As Mike came in, Brother Jerry Sneden, President of Local 999, was reading the order of business. "Roll call of officers . . . reading minutes . . . communications," etc., ending up with "any additions?"

Nobody said a word. A few shuffled in their seats and sat back, ready to listen.

Pres. Talks, Members Doze

By the time the reports of the committees were well under way, Mike began to fidget a little nervously. Yes, there was something wrong, but he couldn't put his finger on it. A committee would report, and each time Brother Sneden would rise and explain the report to everybody and tell about how very important it was. Several people yawned out loud, not because they were impolite—they just couldn't stop it. A brother sitting in the corner of the hall began to sloop in his chair, and before he knew it, his head was drooping on his chest. But you couldn't blame him, because he didn't sleep a wink the night before on account of his arthritis.

As Brother Sneden's voice was becoming an annoying buzz in Mike's ear, his hand suddenly felt his little Constitution in his pocket, so he took it out and began to skim through it. Then a bright idea: A smile lit up Mike's face as he peered around at the wooden faces of the silent membership and looked up at Brother Sneden's intense expression as he explained a resolution.

"Point of Order!" Mike called out.

Chairs shuffled and eyes looked around curiously at Mike. Brother Sneden started with surprise. "Yes, Brother Mike."

Mike's Bombshell

"I don't mean to be rude," Mike began. "But, Brother Chairman, some of our members seem to be falling asleep, and that's not good for Local 999. So I'd like to make a suggestion. In my little book here there is a section called Rules of Order for Local Unions, and I would like to read Rule 17."

The Chairman called for "quiet" for everybody began to whisper excitedly about the interruption of the proceedings, and even the brother in the corner almost woke up.

"Rule 17," Mike read. "The presiding officer shall not speak on any subject unless he retires from the chair, except when he makes a report, or on points of order, and in case of a tie, he shall have the deciding vote.

"Now, Brother Sneden," continued Mike, "I don't mean any offense. But I think that if you followed this rule we would have much more general discussion at meetings and a much bigger attendance.

"You see, Brother Chairman, you are a very clever man, and that's why you are the President of this Local. But our members are smart, too, or they wouldn't be in the Union. So why don't you give them a chance to speak up and do some of the explaining themselves?"

Brother Sneden's ears were very red, but he smiled and said: "You're right, Mike. I guess I'll have to change a bit."

And the brother in the corner suddenly opened his eyes and said: "He's right!"

And since then things have been a lot different in Local 999.

Ask UCAPAWA Mike

Perhaps UCAPAWA Mike can help you with your Local problems. Why don't you ask him?

Dried Fruit And Nut Division

Walnut Red Cross Day: $3689.74!

Los Angeles — Red Cross Day at the Walnut Growers Assn. plants has again been staged by Local 3, whose walnut members raised $3689.74 for the Red Cross Drive by working an extra Saturday at time and one-half, turning all earnings over to war relief.

This was a repeat performance of last year, when the walnut workers and management first told their "Nuts to the Axis" in cold cash.

570 Pitch in

Arrangements for the extra day's work were made by the Union Representatives and Stewards with Management. Some 470 women walnut workers, 70 men and 30 members of supervisory personnel took part, operating plant 1 for the day. It was only because plant 2 is not yet in operation this year, that the total fell below the 1942 figure of some $5,000.

Most active promoters of Red Cross Day, according to Int. Vice-Pres. Luisa Moreno, were Shop Stewards Sara Kachandurian, Vera Abajian, Peggy Vendrell, Josephine Raymond, Antonia Gutierrez, Dora Rodriguez, Irene White, Loretta Rodriguez, Lupe Ortegon, Teresa Barron, Walter Cook, and Executive Board Member Lew Perry and Financial Secretary Marie Wells.

Our Boys Give All!

Sister Wells told the members in the Extra April Edition of the Local 3 Union News, "Your desire to help the Red Cross in its efforts to serve our boys who are doing ALL for our country is something to be remembered."

Reliable Goes Union

Suffolk, Va.—The Old Reliable Peanut Co., Inc., is not a big plant, but when the majority of its employees signed up with Local 26, it was a major victory for the Union.

Come Around With Dues

It was a victory for the workers who no longer believe the old boss' line that "he would take care of them without them having to join a Union." The Old Reliable are makers of peanut butter, and there are 13 employees in all. On May 7, eight of these workers called at Sister Robbie Mae Riddick's home to sign cards and pay their initiations.

Since the majority are now signed up, Harry Koger, Int. Rep., notified the company, asking for a conference. Women in the plant are still being paid 30c per hour.

Local 3 Turns Eyes On Washington

Los Angeles, Calif.—Local 3 has scored two win-the-war hits.

Hit number one was the setting up of a Legislative and Political Committee to keep tabs on the war program in Congress. Members of the Committee are Marie Wells, Fin. Sec., Chairman; and Peggy Vandrell and Marie Alves.

Hit number two was the successful conclusion of the Membership Drive at California Walnut Growers. The winner of the $25 War Bond in the Check-off Signature Drive was Sarah Kachandurian, who signed up 59 workers; second place was won by Vera Abajian, a close runner, who received a letter of thanks. Both girls are shop Stewards.

Labor Greets Clarich On May Day

On May Day, some 144 unions and other labor organizations, including UCAPAWA, and over 200 individuals remembered Christopher Clarich in his cell in Texas. They sent him greetings in a folder containing all their names, with old glory and our eagle on top in red, white and blue. They said:

"On behalf of the members and friends of our organization, we send you May Day greetings of solidarity."

The International Labor Defense gathered the names.

Only $41.88 in April for Clariches

Mrs. Clarich, at home in Corpus Christi with her four children reports only a total of $41.88 received during April. Those who "came through" are: Local 7-2, $2; No. 26 (for 4 months), $12; No. 47, $2; No. 79, $2; No. 638, $2; International Office Staff, $9; I.L.D., $4; and S. S. Sinclair Opaline, $8.88.

We still ask: "where are the other Locals?" Most locals would scarcely miss $2 a month from their treasury; they should help the Clariches.

Clarich was thrown into jail on a trumped-up murder charge during a strike of shrimp peelers (UCAPAWA) in Aransas Pass, Texas in 1939.

Wisconsin Wins 2 New Contracts

Carrollville, Wisc.—Local 495 may be new. Local 495 may have just tied its first contract under its belt, but Local 495 is not resting on its laurels. A labor-management committee is to be set up to boost production. A drive is on to sign up the 350 workers 100% in the Union. An NLRB election is pending to bring the power plant workers under the agreement. Organizational work has started at another plant in town.

Union Security

Here are the main points in the contract with U. S. Glue and Gelatine, according to Int. Rep. James De Witt who assisted the Committee:

Maintenance of membership and dues check-off; time and one-half for the sixth consecutive day and double time for the seventh; full grievance procedure, with impartial umpire and pay for lost time for grievance committeemen.

Also strict seniority with right of transfer between departments; top seniority for grievance committee and officers; 48 hours' vacation pay at any time after anniversary date of employment; $25 War Bond in addition, after 5 years' service; free gloves and aprons, and free boots for 100 men.

Pay Boosts, Shift Bonuses

Further important provisions are war protection clause for men and women in U. S. services; 3c and 5c premium for the second and third shifts; 5c, 6½c and 7c increases in hourly rates, with corresponding increases on piece and tonnage rates, retroactive to Oct. 5, 1942; right to take up all departmental and plant inequalities of individuals as grievances; and right to reopen contract on 30 days' notice for changes in hours and wages if the War Labor Board adopts new wage stabilization policies.

The wage provisions now go to the WLB for approval.

Members of the Bargaining Committee are Mike Kaiser, Steve Martinko, Gordon Dougherty, Martha Vague, John Kopecky, Joe Bauers and Rudy Rueckert.

COTTON SEED OIL AND COMPRESS DIVISION

Govt. Committees Ask Higher Pay In Cotton Seed, Soy Bean Plants

Minimum wages of 40c an hour for the cotton seed and peanut crushing industry and for the vegetable oils and fats, cotton seed, oil refining, soy bean, corn products refining and related industries, were recently recommended unanimously by industry committees, established under the Wage and Hour law.

Both Committees, however, went further. Under the terms of the law, 40c is the highest minimum a committee can ask the Administrator to establish. But both committees went on record recommending to the War Labor Board that higher rated jobs in these industries be allowed to go up in proportion to the increase in the minimum.

UCAPAWA Takes Part

Harry Koger and A. J. Marcus, International Representatives, represented UCAPAWA at the cotton seed and peanut crushing industry committee meeting in Memphis on April 26, and at the vegetable oils and fats, etc. meeting in New York City on April 30. UCAPAWA was represented on the committee by Jack Fox and A. J. Marcus, International Representatives.

President Henderson testified on the pressing need for raising substandard wages in the industries concerned at the New York hearing.

Labor, industry and the public were equally represented on both committees.

Flash!

UCAPAWA wins the Leland Oil Mill election in Memphis by a vote of 44 to 6.

Local Notes:

98 A wage award has been handed down in the case of the Buckeye Cotton Oil Mill and Local 98 in No. Little Rock, Ark., by the Regional War Labor Board in Kansas City.

The Union and Company had agreed on all points except the question of wage increase, and a contract is now in effect.

The Board Order directed that all employees now rated 40c — 38 workers — shall receive 45c; those rated 42½c per hour — 5 workers — shall receive 47½c; employes receiving 45c to 49c — 45 workers —shall receive 50c. All other rates, 50c and above per hour, are to remain in effect.

The question of retroactivity of this pay raise was not brought up during the discussions, and the Board declared this an open question. The Union states that it will apply to the Board to make these rates retroactive to the date of the conclusion of the contract.

This case was originally referred to Mr. Will Akers, an attorney in Little Rock who acted as referee. Mr. Akers ruled against the Union, but was over-ruled by the Regional WLB.

By Local 19

355 The Dunklin County Compress Co. and Local 355 in Kennett, Mo., jointly agree that the NWLB appoint a hearing officer who shall hold hearings of disputed issue, make finding of facts, and submit recommendation which will become the basis for final decision by the National War Labor Board.

The agrement was witnessed by A. E. Johnson, Commissioner of Conciliation; A. J. Mathews, Pres. Local 355; and Lewis Bentzley, Int. Vice-Pres.

Mr. Willie Strong, active member and committeeman of Local 355, received his call for the U. S. N. and at present is stationed at Norfolk, Va., and word has been received that he is doing fine.

By Willie Watts, Press Agent

Another "First": Tolibia Cheese

By James De Witt, Int. Rep.

Fond Du Lac, Wisc.—The Tolibia Cheese Corp. and Local 341, Amalgamated, have signed their first agreement.

Maintenance of membership; seniority; grievance procedure with committee being paid for lost time; and war protection clause are among the chief points.

Win Wage Tussle

Hours are 40 per week for all except cheese processors, who get a guaranteed week; double time is to be paid for seventh consecutive day; and increases are provided for 7½c per hour for women and 10c for men, retroactive to March 8. Adjustments are provided for those not covered in the general increase and the right to reopen the contract at any time on 30 days' notice, for wage and hour adjustments.

The Company finally backed down on its demand that wage raises be contingent on price increases. The contract now goes to the War Labor Board, and approval is expected because of the low prevailing wages.

Vacations with pay for an average work week are scheduled for all those with one year's service, if they have worked all but 60 days at the plant.

Organize Others

Close to 90% of the 65 workers at Tolibia are in Local 341, with every prospect that the others will soon be in. The Brownsville and Forest cheese making plants are also signing up, which will add another 25 members.

The Bargaining Committee was composed of Harold Covill, Chairman; Armand Mueller, Wayne Schrauth, Catherine Mueller, and Thomas McMonagle, with Gordon Krueger, Secretary of Local 341 assisting.

Others who helped the Committee were Harold Miller and Joy Armstrong of the Fond Du Lac CIO Council and Commissioner of Conciliation McDonald.

A drive is now on to get allied plants in this area into Local 341's growing ranks.

"The Three Drips"

—Courtesy The Philco Corporation. Released by WPB Labor Press Service.

Federated Pictures

MAY DAY, 1943: Massing of the colors of the United Nations was symbolic of the demand for international unity and an immediate land invasion of Europe, by more than 51,000 AFL, CIO and railroad union members who packed the huge Yankee Stadium in New York City on May 2. This ceremony opened the victory rally sponsored by the Labor Unity & Victory Committee. Among the speakers were Senator Claude Pepper of Florida, Mayor LaGuardia, Rep. Vito Marcantonio, as well as union leaders. Although the rally had been smeared in most New York papers as a "red" demonstration, the Mayor of New York made a strong speech on the unity of New Yorkers who came to the rally. As two planes zoomed low over the Stadium, the Mayor pointed to the sky and said, "Uncle Sam did not ask them what party they belonged to." Paul Robeson, who made a short speech and then sang several songs, was greeted by a stormy ovation.

TOBACCO DIVISION

OHIO LOCALS DEFEND HOURS LAW

Lima, Ohio—Locals 69 and 70 joined the other unions in this area in protesting the Female Hours Bill pending before the State Assembly. This bill, which has already passed the Senate, has roused the anger of Labor Unions, women's and Negro organizations, since it threatens the working standards of women and minors in the State.

The Consumers' League of Ohio attacked the bill which would allow women to work 10 hours a day and 50 hours a week. The League pointed out that:

- This would mean fewer man hours and smaller output;
- This would mean increased fatigue and absenteeism;
- This will not help war production.

Hearings on the Female Hours Bill were held in Columbus on May 4, where labor delegates spoke to their legislators against the bill. Ruby Catlett of Local 70 represented the Allen County Industrial Council at the hearings; she was accompanied by Sisters Evelyn Marks and Clara Theising of Local 69.

By Ruby Catlett, Press Agent

Lima, Ohio—The labor delegates who came to Columbus to protest the Female Hours Bill learned a great deal which will undoubtedly help us in the future, even if we don't succeed in stopping passage of this anti-labor bill.

First, we in the CIO have gained a distinctive understanding with our other Labor organizations, AFL and Railroad Brotherhoods. At these hearings in Columbus, one organization would not act without consulting the others, and this has greatly confused the Assembly. They realize that they cannot play one group against the other. Labor groups seem to have adopted the UCAPAWA motto: "An Injury to One Is an Injury to All."

Need Peoples' Lawmakers

Then, too, we will not be caught napping again. The most of our trouble has been our own fault. We did not register to vote, and as a result, our Assembly is made up of men who are entirely out of sympathy with Labor. We hope to do much better in the next election.

We were under the impression that our Representatives were sent to do the people's will, but we found out that our own Representative at least had different ideas. We appealed to him from every angle, but he was entirely indifferent to anything we could say. Talking to other delegates at this hearing, we found that this attitude was general.

Members of the Parent-Teachers organization, the State Board of Education, Consumers' League and YWCA also appeared at the hearing. They made pleas for the youth of our State, but all their pleas fell on deaf ears.

Local Notes:

281 Local 281 held its regular meeting on April 8, to elect officers for the coming year.

President Martha Drapinski was re-elected by a heavy vote. The members all feel that under the leadership of Martha Drapinski the Local has gained much in the past, not forgetting the fine work on the part of the Stewards throughout the plant who have worked so hard in the past. And also the rest of the Committee which has helped build up a Local any plant would be proud of.

The other officers elected were: Vice-President, Kathryn Bennett; Treasurer, Clara Lemanski; Financial Secretary, Sally Dettmore; Recording Sec., Anna Karabinis; Chief Steward, Sophia Halliman; Trustees, Agnes Holland and Madeline Witulski.

In the last War Bond Drive, our President sold to the employees $110 in Bonds.

By Kathryn Bennett, Press Agent

577 The Larus & Bros. stemmery case of Local 577, Richmond, Va., is still pending at the War Labor Board. The contract is agreeable to both parties, with the exception of the wage scales. The referee in the case has recommended to the War Labor Board that the increase be granted, starting as far back as December, 1942.

We are awaiting the decision of the War Labor Board.

Rev. Whitfield Speaks

Rev. Owen H. Whitfield, Int. Vice-Pres., spoke at a meeting of Local 577 here on April 7, and was received enthusiastically by the membership.

Rev. Whitfield spoke of the troubles and woes of the colored people here in America. He described his experiences as a soldier in the first World War, and he urged the people to fight for a stronger democracy at home today, so that our colored soldiers will get an even break when they return from this war.

The entire membership of Local 577 enjoyed the speech so much they invited him to come back again in the near future.

By Sara A. Jackson and Mary F. Whitaker, Press Agents

638 Because of accumulated grievances, a stoppage occurred in the Stemmery Dept. of Consolidated Cigar, Local 638 in Lancaster, Pa. on April 27. The dispute was about 17 inch binders and filler natural (No. 3) which caused decrease in earnings.

At the conference, when the Company turned down the Union offer and had nothing to offer themselves, Conciliators Rush and Heany threatened that they would have to report that full blame for any future stoppages would rest on the Company.

The Union was represented by four members of the Grievance Committee, Andrew Dotterman, Augusta Duschl, Miriam Yeager and Florence Yeager and by three members from the Stemmery, Barbara Nichols, Lillian Kistler and Sadie Quinn.

On May 3, settlement was reached, on establishing an hourly rate of 42½c on 17 inch binders, so the girls will not take a wage cut because of piece rates, when working on this stock.

By Miriam Yeager, President

FIELD WORKERS DIVISION

Florida Pickers: "We Want Jobs"

By Otis Nation, Int. Vice-Pres.

Orlando, Fla.—Local 4 is registering vigorous protests against the importation of Bahaman labor into Florida. Insisting that there is a plentiful supply of native labor, the Local has written letters to the Farm Security Administration, to Wayne Darrow of the Farm Labor Administration of the Department of Agriculture, Chester Davis and Commissioner McNutt.

The letters point out that the government could be saved the expense of setting up housing and canteens, as well as the tremendous expense of recruiting in the Bahamas and transporting workers from there to Florida. Some of these workers were imported by airplane, using precious aviation gasoline and precious airplane space.

There are two disturbing angles to the problem of importing labor, as viewed by UCAPAWA.

500 Pickers Ready to Work

The first angle is the plentiful supply of native labor available. The concrete evidence for this has been furnished by UCAPAWA members who prepared a petition to the Farm Security Administration offering their services to harvest the crops to help win the war. Within a very few days, over 500 Negro pickers signed this petition, and other hundreds will have signed it by the time this story gets into print.

Within Orange County, where the petition campaign started, one group of vegetable growers has requested four hundred Bahaman laborers. The citrus season is rapidly on the wane here, and many thousands of skilled agricultural workers will be released for harvesting work for the slack months during the summer season.

Sabotage by Growers

The second disturbing angle in the situation is the report that important food crops are going to waste and undoubtedly will go to waste on account of inefficient use of the native labor.

There are rumors of a revolt among the large potato growers, who say they will not be able to dig the potato crop now ready for harvest. The potato growers are also asking for Bahaman labor and the FSA is to hold hearings in the Hasting potato area very soon. Perhaps the real reason that the potato crop will not be dug is because of the ceiling price of $1.86 per bushel, with which the big potato growers are very much displeased.

'Croppers' Happy On Mass. Jobs

West Bridgewater, Mass.—The twenty-four members of Local 349 who left Harviell, Mo., to help harvest the Victory crops up North, are happy to report that they "like it here fine." Their trip, which was financed by the Farm Security Administration, is part of the program of transporting available farm laborers to areas of labor need, to help supply the vital foods for victory. [FSA is now fighting for its life in Congress.]

These workers will be employed in potatoes and vegetables in Massachusetts until October 15. They are living in growers' housing inspected and approved by the FSA, and they are guaranteed a wage of 40 cents an hour during the period of their contracts. At home, they were sharecroppers with only five months' work each year. They "lived" on pay of 75c to $1.25 for a 14-hour day.

Enjoy Running Water

How well they are enjoying their new jobs is shown in a letter received by Mrs. Whitfield of Local 349 from Sister Gertrude Ice. The letter follows:

Mrs. Whitfield:

I like it here fine. This is a pretty place here and we really are treated nice. We have a nice place to stay. It has been cold as here. We women work best by changes. We don't have to go outdoors for anything. Everything is convenient in the house, hot and cold water, bathroom. This is a fine place to stay.

We are working in a Victory garden. I hope you are all rasing a good garden out there. I hope you enjoy Easter. We all went bus riding Sunday to look over the town.

We are all getting the Vitamins A, B and C which we need.

All send love to the camp. Answer soon.

GERTRUDE ICE

P.S. We get 39 cents an hour and the men get 40 cents an hour for 10 hours a day.

Talking Union At RJR

By Frank Hargrove, International Representative

The wily efforts of the Company to discourage membership in the Union without placing themselves in open violation of the NLRA is being handled beautifully by our membership, and progress continues in the drive to organize the workers of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company's giant plants where, besides chewing and smoking tobacco of various brands, the well-known Camel cigarettes are made.

No Stopping 'Em

An example of good work is reported by Brother Clark Sheppard in plant No. 12 where the superintendent called him into the office and spent an hour trying to convince him, in an indirect way, that he was talking too much about things "the workers did not want to hear."

Sheppard pointed out that while he was careful not to interfere with other workers, he was well aware that a lot of time was being spent by other workers talking. The outcome of the discussion was that the workers to whom Clark referred were silenced. The pretty part of it is that these were anti-union workers.

There is no stopping to Caroline Clark, Secretary of the Voluntary Service Club of the TWOC. It is said that "she wins an argument in the dressing room every morning," and after the smoke clears away, workers ask for applications. Her fellow-workers in plant No. 64 are proud of her excellent leadership and untiring union activity.

Appreciation is also expressed for the big job she did in obtaining petitions to free William Wellman, Negro, who was sentenced to die on a framed rape charge. Wellman was recently pardoned by Governor Broughton.

Sick of Nosey Company

Committees in various plants are shaping up nicely. Major grievances include the failure of the Company to adjust wages from apprentice rate to standard, and the paternalistic attitude of the Company, even going to the extent of foremen questioning the workers about their family life and private affairs.